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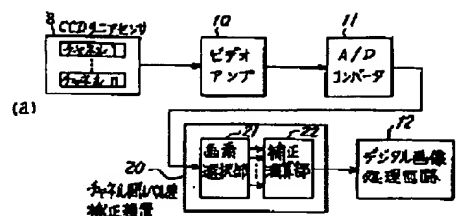
## (54) PICTURE READER

## (57) Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To reduce a level difference occurred between picture elements different in channels in a picture reader where the driving-type CCD linear sensor of a plurality of channels is used and to improve the picture quality.

**SOLUTION:** In a picture reader using the driving-type CCD 8 of a plurality of channels, an inter-channel level difference correction means 20 correcting a level difference existing between the channels of CCD 8 with picture data of a picture read result by CCD 8 as, an object is installed. For correcting the level difference, the picture elements of a plurality of continuous channels are averaged and smoothed or the level difference between the channels is detected in the reading of a white reference sheet and the offset of the picture elements of the respective channels are corrected by using the detected level difference.

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(b)

$$S(i) = [s(i-3) + s(i-2) + s(i-1) + s(i) + s(i+1) + s(i+2) + s(i+3) + s(i+4) + s(i+5)] / 4$$

(c)

$$S(i) = s(i) - K \{s(i) - [s(i-1) + s(i) + s(i+1) + s(i+2)] / 4\}$$